



ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE
AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER
PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON
Except Sunday
By the Alexandria Gazette Corporation
317 King Street, Alexandria, Va.
HOWARD W. SMITH, President and
Treasurer
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MICHAEL T. DWYER, Editor

Entered at the Postoffice at Alexandria, Virginia, as second class matter.

TO-DAY'S THOUGHT. Books are the food of youth; the delight of old age; the ornament of prosperity; the refuge and comfort of adversity; a delight at home and no hindrance abroad; companions by night, in traveling, and in the country. Cicero.

A Secretary of Education. We wrote a little editorial last Friday, meaning all for the

best, and really worried over the educational situation in the United States. But Mr. Leo. P. Harlow, whom apparently none know but to praise, has taken umbrageous exception to our well-intentioned remarks and consigned them and us to the nether regions; presumably as a new addition to the paving system in vogue in that sulphurous realm. And, were it not for the facts in the case—always more stubborn than editorial dicta—we should remain silent under the reflections—divers and sundry—cast on our bowed and humbled head.

Mr. Harlow strenuously objects to a hundred million dollars being spent at this time, or any other, by the federal government, for education in the United States. But the fact is that the 48 states now waste each year nearly double that amount—190 millions—to be exact—for teaching children who are out of school. Our own state, Virginia, throws away \$2,665,000 in this self-same foolish expenditure. We believe that federal supervision and co-operation would be able, in time, to save this waste, and thereby, instead of taxing the people 100 millions, put 90 million dollars each year into their pockets. Of this 100 millions, 7 millions are to be expended in the removal of illiteracy in the United States. 30 per cent of the 2,400,000 young men drafted for the recent war, were unable to read or write. Illiteracy is on the increase all over the country. So that expenditure should be praiseworthy! 7 millions are for the Americanization of the foreign-born. Truly, a noble and patriotic purpose. 50 millions for equalizing educational opportunities. 20 millions for physical education and sanitation. And 15 millions for preparation of teachers.

These are the objects for which the 100 millions are to be spent, as provided in this noxious Bill! But they are all worthy, and, furthermore, needed. We hold that a nation, like a chain, is no stronger than its weakest link; and the weakest link is ignorance! Nearly a hundred years ago the people of Texas, in their Declaration of Independence, uttered this profound truth: "unless people are educated and enlightened, it is idle to expect the continuance of civil lib-

erty or the capacity of self-government."

As to states rights, we have loyally followed our Democratic leaders all our lives. We believe, with them, in a federal post-office; in a federal reserve bank; in a federal control of certain public utilities and public necessities. And we believe it to be just as sound political doctrine to add, federal supervision and unification of the public school systems of the country. The bugbears and hobgoblins conjured up by the fertile brain of Mr. Harlow in his interpretation of a secretaryship of education, we frankly do not believe to exist. A secretary of education should not be more of a political monstrosity than a secretary of war, or of the navy, or of the interior, or of commerce. And we consider education, in truth and fact, more important than any of them. We believe our public schools to be the very corner-stone of the structure of our government.

It is with mingled regret and chagrin that we must confess that we cannot claim Mr. Harlow as a "constant reader." Otherwise he would have known that the Gazette has within the past two months more than once expressed its firm belief in the immortal principles for which the Confederacy fought in the sixties. He would have known that in the past two weeks we attacked in these columns the insidious bureaucracy that is, and has been for some time past, slithering out its tentacles in our capital city.

As to the Smith-Towne Bill, if our friend will devise a better one, shorn of the fangs he professes to see in that, we will support it with all our heart. We are wedded to no bill, or to no measure—save that which will best serve the cause of education in all our broad land; which will give to every child his chance for an education equal to the best. We believe with the great Napoleon, "La carrière ouverte aux talents"—and who told his soldiers that in the knap sack of every one of them lay a marshal's baton!

Alexandria's Library. We are indeed glad to note that there are public-spirited women in Alexandria who are looking after the interests of the young people, and who give of their time and culture to the end that good books may be made easy of access.

In our recent editorial we had reference to a large public library, with spacious and well-lighted reading-rooms; with pictures and statuary; with thousands of volumes, "the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generations and nations."

Perhaps the ancient institution in our midst may yet be the nucleus of a handsome and capacious building, with large endowments and income sufficient to render its blessings free as the sunlight that shall gild its storied windows!

All our editorial hats are off to these public-spirited ladies! Someday we may be able to help them in their hopes and aspirations.

Anonymous Letters. "If there is any place in the world for the writer of anonymous letters we have never been able to locate it," says the Clarendon Chronicle. Don't worry, brother Bailie. There is a place for him in the next world where he won't need even his B. V. D's!

Irish Children Starving. The well-attended meeting held at the Richmond Theatre yesterday afternoon in the cause of Irish relief afforded the citizens of Alexandria their first opportunity to learn of the appalling conditions which exist in Ireland at the present time.

As pointed out by one of the speakers, Sir Philip Gibbs, the English war correspondent now lecturing in this country says that conditions in Ireland today are worse than those existing in Belgium during the German occupation in 1914. Because of the wholesale destruction of Irish life, industries and property—comparable to which Sherman's march to the sea during the Civil War was child's play—thousands of innocent Irish women and children are today actually starving. The pitiable plight of these appealing victims, due to conditions which they have no hand in making and over which they have no control, irresistibly appeals to the good people of Alexandria as it is doing to the country at large. No matter what one's opinion may be as to the causes of the present situation, conditions as they are at present in Ireland must inevitably call for an instant response from the great heart of America which has felt so deeply and responded so generously to the cry of all suffering and needy and helpless peoples.

The whole question of Irish relief is non-partisan and non-sectarian as was plainly demonstrated by the various political and religious beliefs represented by the speakers on yesterday's program. There is being organized in Alexandria a committee of representative citizens to solicit funds for the immediate relief of the horrible condition now existing in Ireland. Food, medicines and other supplies must be rushed at once to prevent the annihilation of a race which has played so great a part in the world's affairs and which has contributed always and well to the upbuilding of American institutions and to the defense of our honor in time of peril and distress.

Without a doubt, Alexandria will respond to so worthy a call.

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VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 5th day of March, 1921.
Stanley T. Milliken, complainant
vs. Emily C. Milliken, defendant. In Chancery No. 1427.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for the complainant from the defendant an absolute divorce on the grounds of wilful desertion and abandonment over a period of three years preceding the filing of this suit.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that the defendant Emily C. Milliken is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within ten days after due publication of this order, and do what is necessary to protect her interest in this suit.

Raymond Neudecker, Crandal MacCoy, P. Q.

A Copy Teste:
NEVELL S. GREENAWAY,
58-4wp Clerk.

VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 4 day of March, 1921.

Evelina A. B. Underwood, complainant
vs. Howard T. Underwood, defendant. In Chancery No. 1420.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for complainant from the defendant an absolute divorce upon the ground of wilful and voluntary desertion and abandonment for a period of more than three years prior to the institution of this suit, the custody of their infant child, Howard A. Underwood, and for general relief.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that the defendant Howard T. Underwood is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within ten days after due publication of this order, and do what is necessary to protect his interest in this suit.

A Copy Teste:
NEVELL S. GREENAWAY,
58-4wp Clerk.

VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 2nd day of March, 1921.

Margaret Taylor, complainant vs. William M. Taylor, defendant. In Chancery No. 1419.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for complainant a limited divorce from defendant on the grounds of wilful and voluntary desertion and abandonment and that upon the passage of the statutory period of three years same may be merged into an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony; the right to resume her maiden name and for general relief.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that the defendant William M. Taylor is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within ten days after due publication of this order and do what is necessary to protect his interest in this suit.

Davis and Budwesky, P. Q.

A Copy Teste:
NEVELL S. GREENAWAY,
58-4wp Clerk.
By Ashby E. Bladen, deputy clerk.

VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 17 day of February, 1921.

Mary McGrath Flint, complainant
vs. Thomas Flint, defendant. In Chancery No. 1390.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for the complainant an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony from the defendant on the grounds of wilful and voluntary desertion and abandonment for more than three years prior to the institution of this suit and for general relief.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that the defendant Thomas Flint is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within fifteen days after due publication of this order, and do what is necessary to protect his interest in this suit.

Davis and Budwesky, P. Q.

A Copy Teste:
NEVELL S. GREENAWAY,
45-1wp Clerk.

VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 19 day of February, 1921.

Wilfrid S. Dowling, complainant vs. Theodora Dowling, defendant. In Chancery No. 1395.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for the complainant from the defendant an absolute divorce on the grounds of wilful desertion and abandonment over a period of three years preceding the filing of this suit, and for general relief.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that defendant Isaiah T. Warren is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within ten days after due publication of this order, and do what is necessary to protect his interest in this suit.

H. Noel Garner, P. Q.
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45-4wp Clerk.

VIRGINIA.

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Alexandria, on the 8th day of March, 1921.

George M. Getrost, complainant vs. Susan Lauknecht Getrost, defendant. In Chancery No. 1435.

MEMO.

The object of this suit is to obtain for the complainant from the defendant an absolute divorce from the bonds of matrimony on the grounds of wilful and voluntary desertion and abandonment for more than three years prior to the institution of this suit, and for general relief.

It appearing by an affidavit filed in this cause that the defendant Susan Lauknecht Getrost is a non-resident of this State: It is Ordered, That said defendant appear here within ten days after due publication of this order, and do what is necessary to protect her interest in this suit.

Davis and Budwesky, P. Q.

A Copy Teste:
NEVELL S. GREENAWAY,
61-4wp Clerk.

BODIES OF 519 YORK

SOLDIERS BROUGHT HOME

New York, March 14.—Bodies of 519 soldiers of the Twenty-seventh Division, who died to break the Hindenburg line, were to arrive here late yesterday aboard the army transport Somme. Comrades of the heroes, led by Major General O'Ryan, were to act as guard of honor.

A majority of the bodies are those of men from New York City and State.